

Appl. No. 10/615,510

Attorney Docket No. 8627-227

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**I. Amendments to the Specification**

Please replace Paragraph [0083] with the following amended paragraph:

[0083] Also, as illustrated in FIG. 30, the taper portion 410 can be formed by ~~wire 414~~ wires 413 of decreasing diameter. In this embodiment, a multiple-filament group 404 of individual wires 406 has increasing smaller diameter wires 406. The taper portion 410 is formed when this group 404 is wound around the longitudinal axis of the guidewire 400. The distal end 408 can be formed of wire coils having the same or different diameter of the wire coils of the taper 410 and body 402 portions.

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